

AIDS NETWORK OF EDMONTON

NEWS BULLETIN

JANUARY 15, 1986

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

HELLO EVERYONE:

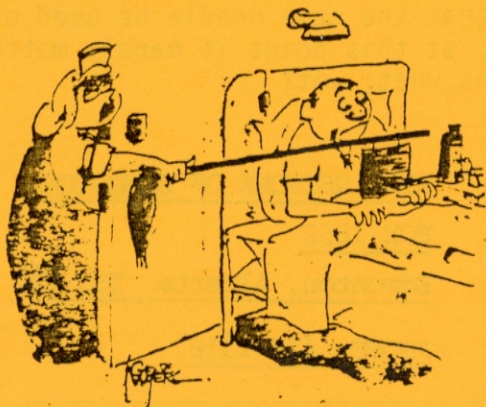
This newsletter is the first in a projected series geared towards the latest news, information and opinions about AIDS. By accessing knowledgeable professionals, such as Drs. Katz, Romanowski, and Soskolne, we will try to present facts as they become available.

Not all the facts are dry: some we will present in a light and humorous vein, always, we hope, maintaining an easy to read style.

We fly under the banner of the AIDS NETWORK of Edmonton. For further information, please contact the NETWORK office at 426-1516, or call 488-3155 and leave a message with Elsie, the Answering Machine.

WHAT YOU SHOULD AND SHOULD NOT DO:

Do practice safer sex. Don't exchange bodily fluids. Do take care of yourself. Don't be excessive with alcohol, drugs, or poppers. If you are a member of a high-risk group -- Don't donate blood to the Red Cross. Don't use the Red Cross as a test site. Donate money instead.



"That's the result of your tests."

NEW WOMAN March 85

RAMIFICATIONS OF TAKING THE TEST, THE HTLV-III TEST!

The AIDS NETWORK wish you to consider the following points before making the decision to take the test:

1. A reactive (positive) test result may be very disturbing and frightening and difficult to deal with on your own. There are not a lot of counsellors trained to discuss or deal with problems you might have.
2. There is much concern about anonymity, privacy and confidentiality. Medical records might be accessed by many people.
3. Test results are basically inconclusive.

HTLV-III Antibody Testing:

- A. A reactive (positive) test result indicates an individual has been exposed to the AIDS virus and all who test reactive are potentially infectious. It does not mean an individual has AIDS, or ARC.
- B. A non-reactive (negative) test result may indicate that you have not been exposed to the virus or that the body has not yet developed the antibodies since it takes some weeks or months to develop after exposure to the virus.

The AIDS NETWORK recommends that you DO NOT take the HTLV-III test unless there are health problems that you and your physician are concerned about.

RECENT AIDS STATISTICS

AIDS Statistics as of December 9, 1985, from the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, Ottawa:

		On Nov. 5/85
Total cases, Cda (incl. pediatric)	404	369
Alive	202	201
Ontario	161	148
Alive	82	92
Quebec	125	113
Alive	56	46
British Columbia	72	67
Alive	40	39
Alberta	18	14
Alive	9	7
Nova Scotia	6	6
Alive	4	5
Saskatchewan	1	1
Alive	0	0
Manitoba	1	1
Alive	1	1
New Brunswick	1	1
Alive	1	1
Homosexual/Bisexual	308	278
Alive	163	164
Heterosexual	67	56
Alive	26	20
Unknown	11	16
Alive	4	6

On January 14, 1985, there were 165 cases of AIDS in Canada, 57 in Ontario, and 48 in Toronto.

SPECIAL THANKS

Many thanks to the Court which recently donated over \$850 to the AIDS NETWORK, and also to Swizzle Sticks for their recent Cut-a-thon.

Thanks also to Flashback for their continuing support and allowing their space to be used for the two fund raisers mentioned above.

PSST.....

Our office needs supplies: file folders, a pencil sharpener (a good one), envelopes, scissors, date stamp and pad, three hole punch, labels and lots more. We've got lists and lists. If you can help us out, please call Tom at 426-1516, during the day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meetings of the AIDS NETWORK: January 22, 1986 at Michael's, to discuss the constitution and bylaws. 5:30 to 6:30 PM - Phone 426-1516 for information. General Meeting of the AIDS NETWORK, February 2, 1986, at GATE office, 12 NOON. Phone 426-1516 for information.

AIDS FORUM, Tuesday, March 11, 1986. 7 to 10 PM at the Edmonton Convention Centre; Admission Free. Sponsored by the AIDS NETWORK and the Edmonton Local Board of Health. Speakers to include Dr. Colin Soskolne, Epidemiologist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IT IS with great alarm that I read more and more articles addressing this frightful epidemic of AIDS which appears to be spreading world-wide, unchecked, heeding no national boundaries and striking the young and old alike. It comes as no surprise to me that certain militant homosexuals are thwarting all efforts to control this plague. We must all face the fact that this is a fatal disease which threatens to destroy the human race. All known homosexuals should be cautiously but firmly detained and incarcerated in interment camps until a suitable vaccine is discovered. Known carriers who flagrantly pursue their lascivious conduct and threaten our children must be humanely eliminated by lethal injection until a reliable cure can be found. This would serve society's

interest while saving them from a much more painful imminent death.

P. Mirabilis

(You're all heart.)

(reprinted from the
Edmonton Sun-Jan 6,
1986)

AN OPINION

We agree, Mr? Ms? P. Mirabilis
We would add only two things: (1) that the administration of lethal needle be televised right before the Cosby Show, so the children can appreciate what we're doing for them; and (2) that the same needle be used over and over, at this point it hardly matters who catches what, wot?

AIDS NETWORK OF EDMONTON

BOX 1852

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2P2

PHONE 426-1516